

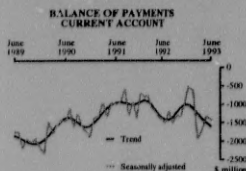
# Statistics Weekly

Thursday, 5 August 1993

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## Current account deficit: the trend is still rising

The provisional trend estimate of the June current account deficit was \$1,600 million, up \$92 million (6%) on the previous month. This is the highest monthly trend estimate of the deficit since March 1990.

Seasonally adjusted, Australia's balance of payments current account deficit for June 1993 rose \$105 million (8%) to \$1,433 million.

The higher deficit was caused by an increase in the merchandise trade deficit of \$166 million, (merchandise exports fell 2% and merchandise imports rose 1%) and a turnaround of \$85 million (from a surplus to a deficit) in the net unrequited transfers balance. Seasonally adjusted, exports fell \$108 million to \$5,039 million and imports increased \$58 million to \$5,219 million.

Partly offsetting these movements in merchandise trade and unrequited transfers were decreases of \$58 million (31%) in the net services deficit and \$88 million (7%) in the net income deficit.

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS  
CURRENT ACCOUNT**  
\$ million

	May 1993		June 1993	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
Balance on merchandise trade	412	- 14	138	- 180
Net services	- 251	- 188	- 304	- 130
Balance on goods and services	161	- 202	- 166	- 310
Net income	- 1,187	- 1,188	- 1,101	- 1,100
Net unrequited transfers	29	62	- 97	- 23
Balance on current account	- 997	- 1,328	- 1,364	- 1,433

Merchandise exports in original terms fell \$232 million, or 4 per cent, to \$5,099 million.

Rural exports fell \$120 million, to \$1,413 million, with the largest decreases recorded in:

- ☐ cereals, down \$88 million or 28 per cent;
- ☐ 'other' rural exports, down \$22 million or 4 per cent; and
- ☐ wool, down \$18 million or 8 per cent.

These decreases were partially offset by an increase in sugar, up \$11 million or 22 per cent.

Non-rural exports fell \$112 million, or 3 per cent, to \$3,686 million. The largest decreases recorded were in:

- ☐ machinery, down \$76 million or 15 per cent;
- ☐ 'other' manufactures, down \$34 million or 6 per cent; and
- ☐ 'other' metals, down \$33 million or 7 per cent.

Increases were recorded in coal, coke and briquettes, up \$52 million or 8 per cent; transport equipment, up \$36 million or 21 per cent; and 'other' non-rural exports, up \$12 million or 11 per cent.

Merchandise imports in original terms rose \$42 million, or 1 per cent to \$4,961 million. The largest increases were recorded in machinery, up \$131 million or 9 per cent and road vehicles, up \$47 million or 9 per cent, to the highest level since August 1989. The largest decreases occurred in fuels, down \$68 million or 18 per cent; chemicals, down \$23 million or 4 per cent; and 'other' transport equipment, down \$19 million or 17 per cent.

The preliminary estimate of the current account deficit for the financial year 1992-93 was \$15,338 million, an increase of \$2,958 million or 24 per cent on the deficit for 1991-92.

The increase in the deficit was due to:

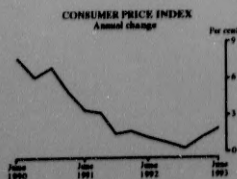
- ☐ a decrease of \$3,275 million (84%) in the merchandise trade surplus;
- ☐ an increase of \$109 million (4%) in the net services deficit; and
- ☐ a fall of \$1,549 million (68%) in the net unrequited transfers surplus.

For further information, order the publication *Balance of Payments, Australia* (5301.0), or contact Graeme Groves on (06) 252 5540 or Peter Morrow on (06) 252 6689.

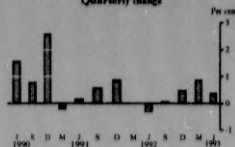
## Consumer price index below two per cent in year to June

The All Groups Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased 0.4 per cent between the March and June quarters 1993, resulting in an annual increase (June quarter 1993 on June quarter 1992) of 1.9 per cent.

Contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were local government rates and charges (up 4.8% nationally, mainly due to the introduction of the State Deficit Levy of \$100 by the Victorian State Government).



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
Quarterly change



Other significant contributions to the rise in the index came from cigarette and tobacco prices (up 2.9% nationally as a result of an increase in tobacco licence fees in Adelaide and Hobart and small increases in prices in all other capital cities); motor vehicle prices (up 1.7%); petrol prices (up 1.0%); beer (up 1.0%); and the cost of overseas holiday travel and accommodation (up 2.7%).

Partially offsetting these rises were falls in fresh fruit and vegetable prices (down 14.6% and largely reversing the 19.0% increase recorded last quarter) and consumer credit charges (down 1.1% due to a fall in interest rates).

Over the 12 months to June quarter 1993, cigarette and tobacco prices have increased 25.7 per cent nationally, reflecting increases in State government franchise and licence fees and the Commonwealth excise on tobacco products.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, JUNE QUARTER 1993  
Weighted average of eight capital cities  
Percentage change

Group	From previous quarter	From corresponding quarter of previous year
Tobacco and alcohol	1.5	9.9
Health and personal care	0.6	3.9
Recreation and education	0.5	3.2
Transportation	0.7	2.9
Food	-0.9	1.5
Clothing	0.6	1.2
Household equipment and operation	0.5	-0.6
Housing	0.8	-1.0
All groups	0.4	1.9
All groups excluding housing	0.4	2.5
All groups excluding tobacco and alcohol	0.3	1.2

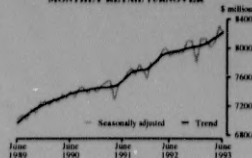
For further information, order the publication *Consumer Price Index (6401.0)*, or contact Bohdan Stankewytch on (06) 252 6251.

## Retail turnover trend stays up

The trend estimate of retail turnover for June 1993 indicated the continuation of a pattern of moderate growth, having now increased by 0.5 per cent for each of the last four months. This moderate growth in the trend estimates is in spite of a fall of 1.2 per cent in the June seasonally adjusted estimate. The trend estimates continue to be influenced by the very strong seasonally adjusted result for May.

The trend estimate of turnover for June was 3.6 per cent above the level of June 1992.

## MONTHLY RETAIL TURNOVER



Turning to the industry trend estimates, the grocery industry (the largest) reflected a similar pattern to the Australian trend with moderate increases of around 0.6 per cent for each of the last five months. Department stores and hotels, liquor stores and licensed clubs showed strong growth over the last three months. Clothing and fabric stores showed weak to moderate growth while other food stores were in decline.

## RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE INDUSTRIES TURNOVER

	Original value in June 1993 (\$m)	Average monthly percentage change in trend estimates	
		3 months ended June 1993	12 months ended June 1993
Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	2,365	0.6	0.4
Butchers	201	-0.4	0.6
Other food stores	493	-0.8	-0.6
Total food group	3,106	0.3	0.2
Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	924	1.0	0.3
Department and general stores	878	1.1	0.6
Clothing and fabrics stores	576	0.3	-0.3
Electrical goods stores	458	0.2	0.5
Pharmacies	390	2.8	1.9
Newsagents	242	-1.6	-0.4
Other industries	1,348	n.a.	n.a.
All industries	7,873	0.5	0.3

In constant price, seasonally adjusted terms the Australian estimate of turnover for retail and selected service establishments rose by 1.3 per cent in the June 1993 quarter. This is the first quarter to show a rise since June 1992.

RETAIL AND SELECTED SERVICE INDUSTRIES TURNOVER  
At average 1989-90 prices, seasonally adjusted

	\$ million	Percentage change	
		From previous quarter	From corresponding quarter of previous year
1992			
June	22,096	1.5	4.6
September	22,040	-0.3	1.7
December	21,998	-0.2	2.0
1993			
March	21,969	-0.1	0.9
June	22,253	1.3	0.7

## A better year for builders ...

In original terms, the total number of dwelling units approved increased by 13.6 per cent in the year to June, from 150,201 in 1991-92 to 170,557 in 1992-93. An increase of 15.9 per cent in private sector approvals more than offset the 13.3 per cent decrease in public sector dwelling unit approvals.

Total house approvals rose by 11.5 per cent and total other residential building approvals (townhouses, flats, apartments, etc.) rose by 19.4 per cent. The number of other residential dwelling unit approvals, expressed as a proportion of total dwelling unit approvals, has risen from 25.4 per cent in 1990-91, to 26.2 per cent in 1991-92, and 27.5 per cent in 1992-93.

Percentage movements between 1991-92 and 1992-93 for each State and Territory in the number of dwelling units approved were:

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
Total dwellings	11.9	13.7	14.1	9.4	21.0	4.9	1.4	14.7	13.6

In original terms, the value of total building approved in 1992-93 (\$23,886.4 million) increased by 12.7 per cent over the level recorded in 1991-92. Increases occurred in all three major categories, with new residential building approvals increasing by 17.6 per cent, alterations and additions to residential buildings by 5.8 per cent and non-residential building by 6.5 per cent.

Percentage movements between 1991-92 and 1992-93 for the value of building approved for each State and Territory were:

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
Residential	16.8	12.7	17.1	10.7	23.4	5.3	-1.1	18.0	16.0
Non-residential	19.8	-4.6	-9.6	-33.2	76.2	-2.6	-13.0	-1.9	6.5
Total building	17.9	6.6	8.9	-7.6	37.9	3.1	-5.7	10.8	12.7

The value of residential building approved increased substantially in all States and Territories except Tasmania and the Northern Territory in 1992-93. The value of non-residential building approved rose by 6.5 per cent in 1992-93, with large increases in New South Wales (19.8%) and Western Australia (76.2%) more than offsetting falls in the other States and Territories. Despite the increase in 1992-93, non-residential building approvals remain well below the peak levels of 1988-89.

The rise in non-residential building approvals in 1992-93 was mainly due to large increases in the health (71.6%), shops (29.4%), educational (10.5%) and entertainment and recreational (15.9%) categories. Modest increases were recorded in the religious (10.8%), other business premises (6.7%), and factories (4.2%) categories, while approvals in the miscellaneous (-2.6%) category fell slightly.

The largest falls were recorded in the hotels (-42.4%) and offices (-14.8%) categories. The value of hotel approvals in 1992-93 was \$234.0 million, the lowest annual value since 1980-81 and 85.5 per cent below the peak in 1988-89. The value of office approvals in 1992-93 was \$1,487.3 million, the lowest annual value since 1983-84 and 67.2 per cent below the level recorded in 1988-89.

## ... But growth has ended for now

The provisional trend estimates for the total number of dwelling units approved continued the decline evident in this series since February 1993. The trend fell by 1.3 per cent in June 1993 to 14,301 approvals, following falls of 1.0 per cent in May and 0.8 per cent in April. There would need to be an above average increase of over 7 per cent in the seasonally adjusted number of dwelling units approved in July 1993 to arrest this decline.

The provisional trend estimates for the number of private sector house approvals remained relatively flat (as it has done since August 1992), despite a 4.1 per cent increase in seasonally adjusted approvals in June. A similar level of private sector house approvals in July 1993 would see this provisional trend series begin to move upward.

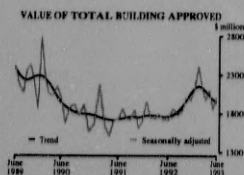
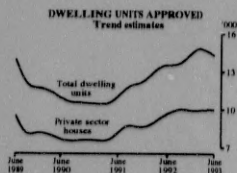
In seasonally adjusted terms, the total number of dwelling units approved rose marginally, by 0.2 per cent, to 14,033 in June 1993, following a 9.9 per cent fall in May. The number of private sector house approvals rose by 4.1 per cent to 10,070 in June 1993, following a 3.7 per cent fall in May.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, JUNE 1993

		Percentage change	
	Number	From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
Private sector houses			
Trend estimate	9,989	- 0.1	3.2
Seasonally adjusted	10,070	4.1	5.1
Original	10,657	4.0	5.5
Total dwelling units			
Trend estimate	14,301	- 1.3	5.7
Seasonally adjusted	14,033	0.2	3.8
Original	15,421	3.7	5.1

## Value of building approved

The provisional trend series for the value of total building approved continued to decline from the turning point in January 1993, falling 2.4 per cent from the May estimate.



There would need to be a rise of almost 9 per cent in the seasonally adjusted series in July for this trend to flatten out. The value of both new residential building and non-residential building is in decline.

#### VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED, JUNE 1993

	\$ million	Percentage change	
		From previous month	From corresponding month of previous year
New residential building			
Trend	1,142.6	-2.7	5.8
Seasonally adjusted	1,151.3	2.1	7.0
Original	1,246.5	3.1	8.2
Total building			
Trend	1,941.5	-2.4	10.6
Seasonally adjusted	2,009.8	8.4	17.1
Original	2,130.7	0.6	15.9

For further information, order the publication *Building Approvals, Australia* (8731.0), or contact Paul Seville on (06) 252 6067.

## Small increases in average earnings continue

Preliminary estimates for May 1993 showed that the small rises in most categories of earnings in the previous two quarters continued in the May quarter.

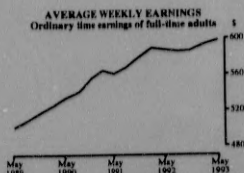
Average weekly total earnings for all females and all persons were the only categories that declined slightly (1.2% and 0.1% respectively).

Over the last three quarters the annual rate of increase for full-time adult total average weekly earnings grew at a faster rate than that of ordinary time earnings. This upturn in total earnings indicated that the overtime component of average weekly earnings is increasing and is commensurate with the level of increase of overtime hours worked over the same period derived from the Job Vacancies and Overtime survey.

#### AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, MAY 1993

	Average weekly earnings (\$)			Percentage change in 'Persons' from	
	Males	Females	Persons	May 92	Feb. 93
<b>Full-time adults</b>					
Ordinary time	633.40	531.40	598.00	1.8	0.7
Total	679.60	543.90	632.50	2.4	0.7
<b>All employees</b>					
	612.80	405.10	517.70	2.6	-0.1

For further information, order the publication *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, Preliminary* (6301.0), or contact Ann Soutar on (09) 323 5304.





## \$297 million revenue for performing arts in 1991

On an average day in 1991, music and performing arts organisations gave 93 performances around Australia. The performances yielded average takings of approximately \$5,400 from average audiences of 233 patrons.

Put into aggregates, this means that almost 8.5 million patrons paid \$182.7 million in box office and subscription sales to attend 34,113 performances in 1991.

These survey results relate to 459 Australia-based organisations identified in 1991 as presenting music and performing arts. They do not include organisations involved in popular music such as rock and jazz.

The 459 organisations also received \$81.4 million in government grants and subsidies, \$13.8 million from sponsorship and donations, and another \$19.3 million from a variety of other sources, to generate a total of \$297.2 million in revenue.

The biggest income generators were 13 major musicals which received no direct government funding but which raised \$91.3 million or 31 per cent of total revenue.

The industry spent \$275.7 million on staging performances by organisations involved in major musicals, theatre, symphony orchestras, chamber and choral groups, opera and music theatre and dance.

These organisations outlayed \$124.9 million for contract fees, wages and salaries to Australian artists, support staff, technical, marketing and administrative personnel. A further \$10.3 million was spent on travel and allowances to Australians and \$5.6 million in fees to overseas artists.

Music and performing arts organisations employed 1,957 full-time and 434 part-time permanent employees and 13,607 non-permanent employees. In addition 1,305 persons were employed on major musicals.

For further information, order the publication *Music and Performing Arts, Australia* (4116.0), or contact Roger Mableson on (08) 237 7449.

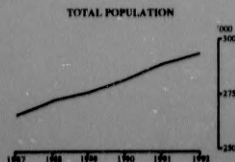
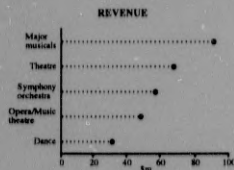
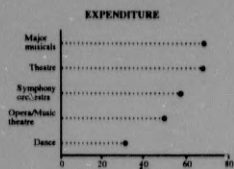
## Yes, the national capital is different

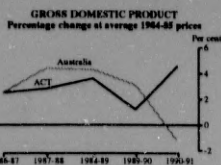
A comprehensive statistical profile of the national capital has revealed deviations from Australia-wide norms on many fronts, ranging from the obvious (like the climate) to the obscure (like the crude death rate).

*Australian Capital Territory in Focus, 1993*, released recently by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, revealed for instance that February is the only month in which frost has never been recorded at Canberra airport. The median date of Canberra's first frost is 9 April, and that of the last is 16 November.

Another major difference between the ACT and the rest of Australia concerns land use. About 53 per cent of the Territory's 2,400 square kilometres is managed as national park or nature reserve, compared with a national average of just 5.3 per cent.

*Continued ...*





Other characteristics which distinguish the ACT include:

- ☐ a crude birth rate of 16.4 (in 1991) compared with the national average of 14.9 births per thousand population;
- ☐ the lowest crude death rate in the nation, at 3.8 per thousand population in 1991 compared with the national average of 6.9;
- ☐ in education, an apparent retention rate to year 12 of 97.2 per cent in 1992, compared with the national average of 77.1; and
- ☐ in government finance, grants from the Commonwealth made up 55 per cent of ACT Government revenue in 1991-92, compared with 49 per cent for the whole of Australia.

In 1992, 26.4 per cent of the employed labour force in the ACT were employed in community services followed by public administration and defence at 26.1 per cent. These industries were followed by wholesale and retail trade at 14 per cent and finance, property and business services at 13.1 per cent.

Canberra has become an increasingly cosmopolitan city with 14 per cent of its population coming from non-English speaking backgrounds.

#### COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF ACT RESIDENTS

Country	Number	Per cent
<b>Main English speaking countries</b>		
Australia	208,280	74.6
Canada	741	0.3
Ireland	747	0.3
New Zealand	3,535	1.3
South Africa	706	0.3
United Kingdom	19,070	6.8
USA	1,718	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>234,797</b>	<b>84.1</b>
<b>Other countries</b>		
China	1,387	0.5
Germany	2,749	1.0
Greece	1,477	0.5
Hong Kong	1,197	0.4
India	1,149	0.4
Italy	2,727	1.0
Lebanon	420	0.2
Malaysia	1,560	0.6
Malta	364	0.1
Netherlands	1,639	0.6
Philippines	1,017	0.4
Poland	1,504	0.5
USSR	796	0.3
Vietnam	1,917	0.7
Yugoslavia	3,932	1.4
Other	15,301	5.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,136</b>	<b>14.0</b>
<b>Not stated</b>	<b>5,409</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>279,342</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Inquiries

The ABS supplies a wide range of statistical information:

- through its bookshops
- by mail order (including subscription)
- by facsimile
- electronically.

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### Editor

Rad Leovic  
(06) 252 6104

**Statistics Weekly**  
5 August 1993

## Order from the following:

### Expected releases over the fortnight to 17 August

- 6 Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product, June 1993 (\$206.0; \$26.00)
- 11 Quarterly Indexes of Industrial Production, Australia, June Quarter 1993 (\$125.0; \$10.70)
- 12 Balance of Payments, Australia, June Quarter 1993 (\$302.0; \$21.40)  
Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia, June 1993 (\$569.0; \$10.70)  
The Labour Force, Australia, July 1993, Preliminary (6202.0; \$10.70)
- 16 Private New Capital Expenditure, Australia, Actual and Expected Expenditure to June 1994, June Quarter 1993 Survey, Preliminary (\$625.0; \$10.70)  
Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Eight Capital Cities, June 1993 (6407.0; \$10.70)  
Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra, June 1993 (6408.0; \$8.20)  
Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia, June 1993 (6412.0; \$10.70)

### Selected releases: 28 July to 3 August

#### General

Australian Economic Indicators, August 1993 (1350.0; \$26.00)  
Monthly Summary of Statistics, NSW, July 1993 (1305.1; \$14.30)  
Economic Indicators, NSW, July 1993 (1307.1; \$5.60)  
Monthly Summary of Statistics, Vic., July 1993 (1303.2; \$10.70)  
Economic Indicators, Vic., July 1993 (1307.2; \$6.70)  
Monthly Summary of Statistics, Qld, August 1993 (1304.3; \$9.70)  
Northern Territory in Focus, 1993 (1306.7; \$25.00)

#### Social statistics

Household Safety, NSW, November 1992 (4387.1; \$14.00) — *new issue*  
Queensland's Young People, August 1991 (4123.3; \$12.50) — *new issue*

#### National accounts, Finance and Foreign trade

International Trade in Services, Aust., 1991-92 (\$354.0; \$20.40)  
Public Sector Debt, Aust., 30 June 1991 and 1992 (\$513.0; \$10.70)  
Finance Estimates of Commonwealth Public Trading Enterprises, Aust., 1993-94 (\$515.0; \$5.00)  
Cash Management Trusts, Aust., June 1993 (\$635.0; \$6.10)

#### Agriculture

Livestock Products, Aust., June 1993 (7215.0; \$8.00)  
Value of Principal Agricultural Commodities Produced, Aust., 1992-93, Preliminary (7501.0; \$10.20)

Agriculture and Fishing, NT, 1991-92 (7113.7; \$10.70)

#### Manufacturing, Mining, Energy, Service industries,

##### Building and Construction

Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Household Appliances and Electrical Equipment, May 1993 (8357.0; \$9.00)  
Manufacturing Production, Aust.: Clothing and Footwear, May 1993 (8358.0; \$10.70)

Information Paper: Change in Format of the Monthly Retail Trade Aust. Publication (8501.0), 1993 (free)

Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, NSW, April 1993 (8741.1; \$10.70)

Building Approvals, Vic., June 1993 (8731.2; \$10.70)

Building Approvals, Qld, June 1993 (8731.3; \$10.70)

Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, SA, May 1993 (8741.4; \$10.70)

Key national indicators	Period	Units	Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on	
			Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
<b>National accounts</b>						
Gross domestic product (GDP(A)) at 1989-90 prices	Mar. qtr 93	\$m	n.a.	94,192	0.6	2.6
<b>International accounts</b>						
Balance on current account (b)	June 93	\$m	-1,364	-1,433	-8	-3
Balance on merchandise trade (b)	"	"	138	-180	-	-
Balance on goods and services (b)	"	"	-166	-310	-53	-37
Merchandise exports	"	"	5,099	5,039	-2	6
Merchandise imports	"	"	-4,961	-5,219	1	11
Net foreign debt	31 Mar. 93	\$m	160,615	n.a.	-3.9	7.9
Net foreign liabilities	"	"	208,338	n.a.	-1.5	5.8
<b>Consumption and investment</b>						
Retail turnover at current prices	June 93	\$m	7,873	8,201	-1.2	4.0
New capital expenditure at 1989-90 prices	Mar. qtr 93	"	5,362	6,017	-7.0	6.3
New motor vehicle registrations	June 93	no.	53,319	48,255	9.3	-2.6
<b>Production</b>						
Manufacturers' sales at 1989-90 prices	Mar. qtr 93	\$m	31,512	33,677	1.1	2.3
Dwelling unit approvals	June 93	no.	15,421	14,033	0.2	3.8
Building approvals	"	\$m	2,171	2,010	8.4	17.1
Building work done at 1989-90 prices	Mar. qtr 93	"	5,748	6,207	0.8	6.9
<b>Prices</b>						
Consumer price index	June qtr 93	1989-90 = 100.0	109.3	n.a.	0.4	1.9
Articles produced by manufacturing industry	May 93	1988-89 = 100.0	114.7	n.a.	0.3	2.1
Materials used in manufacturing industries	May 93	1984-85 = 100.0	124.5	n.a.	-0.2	1.7
<b>Labour force and demography</b>						
Employed persons	June 93	'000	7,741.7	7,736.0	0.5	0.5
Participation rate †	"	%	62.5	62.8	0.8	-0.4
Unemployment rate †	"	"	10.6	11.1	3.5	0.0
Job vacancies	May 93	'000	30.2	31.6	9.5	24.3
Average weekly overtime per employee	"	hours	1.18	1.20	3.5	8.4
Estimated resident population	Dec. qtr 92	million	17.6	n.a.	0.2	1.1
Short-term overseas visitor arrivals	Apr. 93	'000	226	241	-4.8	10.7
<b>Incomes</b>						
Company profits before income tax	Mar. qtr 93	\$m	3,850	4,887	23.9	36.9
Av. weekly earnings, full-time adults; ordinary time	May qtr 93	\$	598.00	n.a.	0.7	1.8
<b>Financial markets</b>						
Interest rates (c) (monthly average)						
90-day bank bills †	June 93	% per annum	5.25	n.a.	0.10	-1.15
10-year Treasury bonds †	"	"	7.35	n.a.	-1.55	-1.55
Exchange rate — \$US	June 93	per \$A	0.6751	n.a.	-3	-11

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (c) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia.

NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

Percentage change from some period previous year

## Key State indicators

	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
New capital expenditure*	Mar. qtr 93	6.6	2.7	-14.0	2.2	31.5	1.0	n.a.	n.a.	3.2
Retail turnover (trend estimate)	June 93	-0.5	6.0	5.4	3.0	11.5	0.8	n.a.	8.9	3.6
New motor vehicle registrations†	June 93	-23.1	6.6	20.1	3.2	28.6	1.5	42.9	-16.5	-2.6
Number of dwelling unit approvals*	June 93	-5.3	3.8	13.7	-8.0	14.1	-3.3	141.0	-15.3	3.8
Value of total building work done	Mar. qtr 93	3.2	2.0	16.0	0.8	35.9	-0.5	-10.8	-6.2	7.5
Employed persons*	June 93	-0.9	-1.1	3.0	1.6	3.6	2.1	-5.5	4.6	0.5
Capital city consumer price index	June qtr 93	1.8	1.8	2.5	2.7	1.1	2.2	1.5	2.2	1.9
Av. weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time)	Feb. qtr 93	-1.5	1.8	3.2	1.7	0.3	2.7	4.2	3.2	0.8
Population	Dec. qtr 92	0.9	0.5	2.5	0.5	1.2	0.5	1.0	1.5	1.1
Room nights in licensed hotels and motels, etc.	Mar. qtr 93	6.7	2.3	14.1	-2.5	2.1	10.5	6.1	14.6	7.0

\* Seasonally adjusted except for NT and ACT. † Seasonally adjusted except for Tas., NT and ACT.

Figures have been taken from a variety of ABS publications. Copies may be obtained from Information Services (see page 7). Some of the figures shown are preliminary, some final, and some are revisions of previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with the ABS' Information Services if the status of the statistic is important. The ABS should be acknowledged as the source when reproducing or quoting any part of this publication.

